

3SHB 1226 - H AMD 849

By Representative Anderson

WITHDRAWN 02/13/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the purpose of this act to create a
4 citizens' commission to recommend proper campaign contribution limits,
5 thus removing political considerations in fixing the appropriateness of
6 the amount of such limits. The commission shall make recommendations
7 to the legislature regarding campaign contribution limits that protect
8 citizen rights as provided for in Article I, section 5 of the state
9 Constitution while ensuring public accountability and citizen access to
10 elected office.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Washington citizens' commission on
12 campaign contribution limits is created to consist of fourteen members
13 to be selected as provided in this section.

14 (1) Seven of the fourteen commission members shall be selected by
15 lot by the secretary of state from among those registered voters
16 eligible to vote at the time persons are selected for appointment to
17 full terms on the commission. No two members shall come from the same
18 county. The secretary shall establish policies and procedures for
19 conducting the selection by lot.

20 (2) The remaining seven of the fourteen commission members, all
21 residents of this state, shall be selected jointly by the speaker of
22 the house of representatives and the president of the senate. The
23 names of the seven persons selected in this subsection for appointment
24 to the commission shall be forwarded to the governor no later than July
25 1, 2006.

26 (3) No member of the commission may be removed unless for cause of
27 incapacity, incompetence, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office, or
28 for a disqualifying change of residence. The unexcused absence of any
29 person who is a member of the commission from two consecutive meetings

1 of the commission shall constitute the relinquishment of that person's
2 membership on the commission. Such a relinquishment creates a vacancy
3 in that person's position on the commission. A member's absence may be
4 excused by the chair of the commission upon the member's written
5 request if the chair believes there is just cause for the absence.
6 Such a request must be received by the chair before the meeting for
7 which the absence is to be excused. A member's absence from a meeting
8 of the commission may also be excused during the meeting for which the
9 member is absent by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members
10 of the commission present at the meeting.

11 (4) No state official, public employee, or lobbyist, or immediate
12 family member of the official, employee, or lobbyist, subject to the
13 registration requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW, is eligible for
14 membership on the commission. As used in this subsection, the phrase
15 "immediate family" means the parents, spouse, siblings, children, or
16 dependent relative of the official, employee, or lobbyist whether or
17 not living in the household of the official, employee, or lobbyist.

18 (5) Upon a vacancy in any position on the commission, a successor
19 shall be selected and appointed to fill the position. The selection
20 and appointment shall be concluded within thirty days of the date the
21 position becomes vacant and shall be conducted in the same manner as
22 originally provided.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The commission shall adopt
24 recommendations for a schedule of campaign contribution limits for:

25 (a) Candidates for state legislative office;

26 (b) Candidates for state office other than state legislative
27 office;

28 (c) Candidates for county office in a county that has over two
29 hundred thousand registered voters;

30 (d) Candidates for special purpose district office if that district
31 is authorized to provide freight and passenger transfer and terminal
32 facilities and that district has over two hundred thousand registered
33 voters;

34 (e) Persons holding an office in (a) through (d) of this subsection
35 against whom recall charges have been filed or to a political committee
36 having the expectation of making expenditures in support of the recall
37 of a person holding the office;

1 (f) Caucus political committees;

2 (g) Bona fide political parties;

3 (h) Candidates for the state supreme court and court of appeals.

4 (2) Members of the commission shall receive no compensation for
5 their services, but shall be eligible to receive a subsistence
6 allowance and travel expenses pursuant to RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

7 (3) The members of the commission shall elect a chair from among
8 their number. The commission shall set a recommended schedule of
9 campaign contribution limits by an affirmative vote of not less than
10 eight members of the commission.

11 (4) The commission shall complete a preliminary report on January
12 1, 2007, with recommendations for a schedule of campaign contribution
13 limits for individuals included in subsection (1) of this section. The
14 commission shall complete a final report on June 1, 2007.

15 (5) Before the completion of the report, the commission shall first
16 develop a proposed schedule of campaign contribution limits and then
17 hold no fewer than four regular meetings as defined by chapter 42.30
18 RCW to take public testimony on the proposed schedule within the four
19 months immediately preceding the final report. At the last public
20 hearing that is held as a regular meeting on the proposed schedule, the
21 commission shall adopt the proposed schedule as originally proposed or
22 as amended at that meeting.

23 (6) All meetings, actions, hearings, and business of the commission
24 shall be subject in full to the open public meetings act under chapter
25 42.30 RCW.

26 (7) The commission shall disband on July 1, 2007.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires July 1, 2007."

28 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Replaces campaign contribution limits in proposed
substitute bill with a temporary fourteen member Washington citizens'
commission that will recommend campaign contribution limits to the
legislature.

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